

HO-335
The Rorabaugh House
Annapolis Junction
Private

circa 1863

This Romanesque style house faces east on the west side of Rt. 32, one mile south of the intersection of Route 1. Once surrounded by a 55 acre tract, it is now situated on 4.5 acres, located within an industrial zone with the relocation of Route 32 planned several hundred feet west of the building.

It is a five bay wide, one room deep, two and a half story, gabled roof (running north-south) frame house, constructed of German siding which rests on a stone foundation.

Its east facade holds a central roman arched paneled rectangular entrance, flanked by three vertical side lights and surmounted by a four light transom. Windows are rectangular, vertically aligned, proportionally scaled and double-hung, holding six-over-six lights. The central bay of the second floor holds an exceptionally fine double roman arched window surmounted by an intersecting gabled roof, "A" frame dormer window holding a four light bull's eye.

A two story high, two bay wide, one room deep, intersecting gabled roof (running east-west) frame kitchen and dining room west wing forms an L plan, extending westward on the three south bays of the west wall of the house.

Constructed between the years 1854 and 1863, it was owned by William P. Cresson and sold to Michael Fitzsimmons on October 5, 1863. An exceptionally well executed example of American romaneseque domestic architecture, it is hoped that its continued preservation may be assured through state-local action.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Ho-335
District 6

MA6I# 1403355504

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

The Rorabaugh House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

10750 Guilford Road (MD 732)

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis Junction

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Howard

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES, RESTRICTED☐ YES, UNRESTRICTED☒ Limited

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. William Bevan

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

10750 Guilford Road

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis Junction

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

Tax Map 48 p.115

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Hall of Records

Liber #: 411

Folio #: 528

STREET & NUMBER

Howard County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1978

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

21 State Circle, Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

CONDITION

— EXCELLENT
 X GOOD
 — FAIR

— DETERIORATED
 — RUINS
 — UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

— UNALTERED
 X ALTERED

CHECK ONE

X ORIGINAL SITE
 — MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Rorabaugh House is located one mile south of the intersection of Route 1 on the west side of Route 32 or Guilford Road. It faces east on a gently sloping five acre tract of land which is presently surrounded by industrially zoned property. This house was once owned by the Rorabaugh family and consisted of a larger tract of land which was cut up by that family to provide homesites for their sons and daughters. Two houses to the west were once inhabited by two of the daughters while sons reside to the south and west.

With the relocation of Route 32, the two homesites of the daughters have been condemned. This is an unfortunate alignment for these homes provide a buffer zone for this well designed romanesque style house which was built circa 1863. Not only the house, but the landscaping surrounding the house is of exquisite taste and exceptional significance. The highway could well be used as a buffer or boundary between the industrial area and the residential cluster that presently exists. Industrial operations already exist on the east side of Route 32, but the location of the house a distance from the road sheltered by mature trees and a variety of shrubs offers a protection to the house from this activity.

The house itself is a five bay wide, one room deep, two and a half story, gabled roof (running north-south) frame house, constructed of German siding resting on a stone foundation. It is in good condition with a need for some cosmetic face lifting which has been foregone (painting, etc.) with the advent of the relocation of Route 32 and the encroachment of the industrial zone.

The house does, however, have an exceptionally fine facade as it faces east with its central roman arched paneled, rectangular entrance way, flanked by three vertical side lights and surmounted by a four light transom. Two vertically aligned and proportionally scaled first and second floor rectangular double-hung windows holding six-over-six lights punctuate each side of this central bay which holds a central double roman arched second floor window surmounted by an intersecting gabled roof, "A" frame dormer window holding a four light bull's eye. These two romanesque windows are double-hung and hold five-over-four lights (See photograph).

Extending two bays westward from the center bay to the south bay of the west wall of this house (see figures 1 & 2) is a two story high, one room deep, two bay wide frame kitchen and dining room wing which forms an L plan. Its intersecting gable roof line runs east-west.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

A one story high gabled roof (running east-west) frame addition has been added to the west wall of the kitchen and holds one light, rectangular north and south windows with rectangular entrance and a double-hung rectangular window holding two-over-two lights on the west wall.

The interior of the house retains much of its original woodwork and a fine staircase and bannister.

Mantle pieces are found in the first floor living room and family room. The chimney for the kitchen wing is only used for the heater in the basement. Stoves were originally used to heat the house and were found in the upstairs bedrooms as well as the kitchen.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW		
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1863

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rorabaugh House is significant historically and architecturally.

Architecturally, it is an exceptionally fine example of romanesque architecture of the 1860's. The second floor, double romanesque window is outstanding, and the central 'A' framed intersecting gabled roof dormer above it, holding a four light bull's eye, enhances and dots the 'i'. Often these great windows are found in the attic, but this is found over the doorway, fitting into and enhancing the facade rather than dominating and being superimposed upon it.

The interior plan is similar to those of an earlier vintage, a central hall flanked by living room and parlor with double pile organization, and a kitchen-dining room extension off three bays of the main house. In old homes which had kitchens located near the house, these extensions were made later rather than integrated into the original plan of the house.

The scale and stylistic detail of the house, as well as its interior plan, is noteworthy.

It should be considered for inclusion to the National Register as well as to the State Critical Areas Program. The latter is of primary importance for the building is presently in an exceptionally hazardous situation, jeopardizing its very existence as it is in the middle of an industrial zone, an acre of its 5.5 acres has been taken on its west boundary for the relocation of Route 32, and it is presently up for sale. One of these factors might be sufficient to jeopardize its future, but all three occurring at one time places it in a most critical predicament. It should be immediately nominated for both the National Register and the State Critical Areas Program.

Note: The building dates from at least 1863 when William P. Cresson conveyed the property to Michael Fitzsimmons for \$4,600 (22-591).

An earlier transaction in 1854 conveyed the deed to the property for only \$621.00. Substantial improvements were made between 1854 and 1863. (WWW 18-571)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Howard County Land Records
Hopkins Atlas of 1878

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

4.5 Acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 48, p.115

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 411, Folio 528.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Howard

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

3450 Court House Drive

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

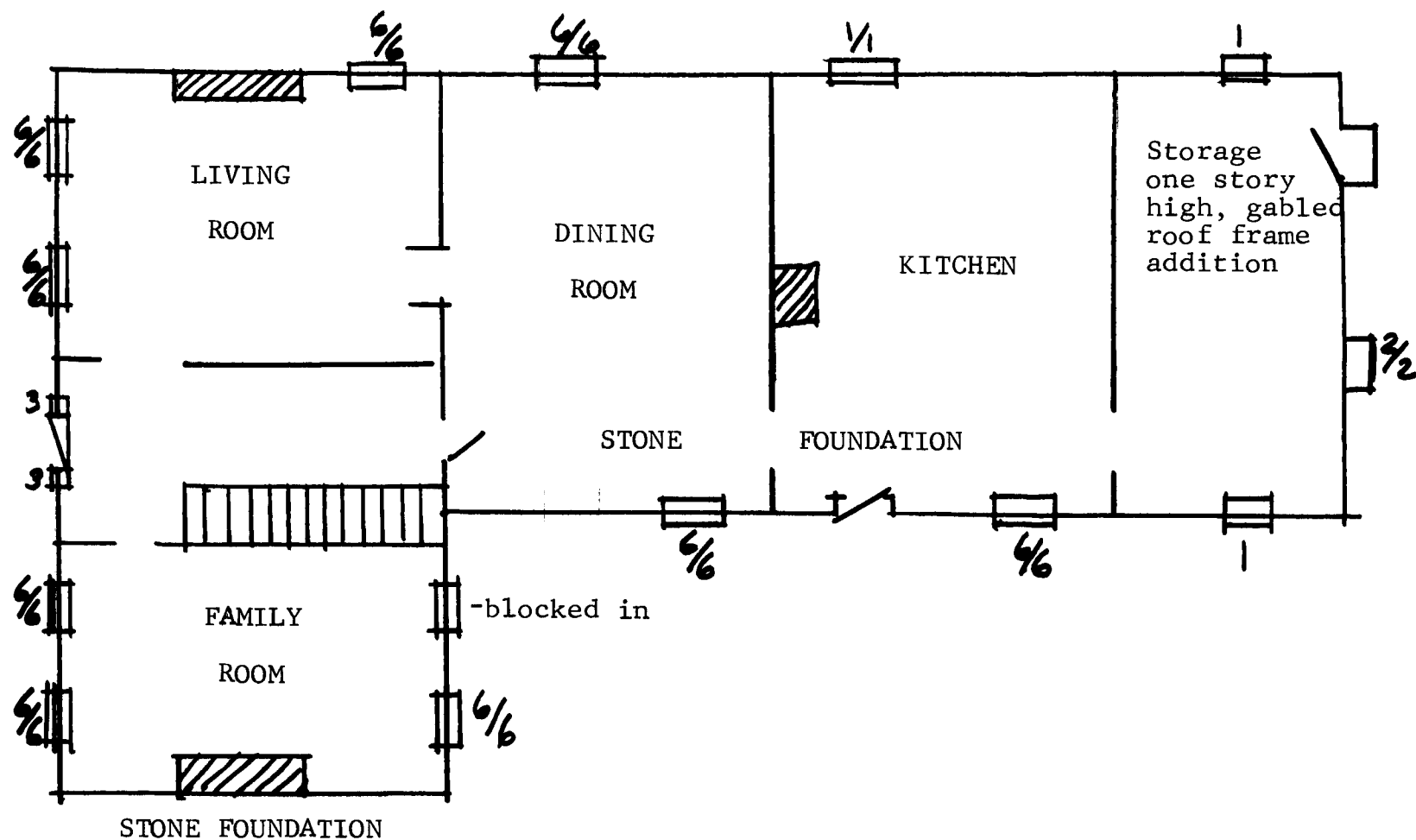


Figure 1
HO-335
The Rorabaugh House
First Floor Plan

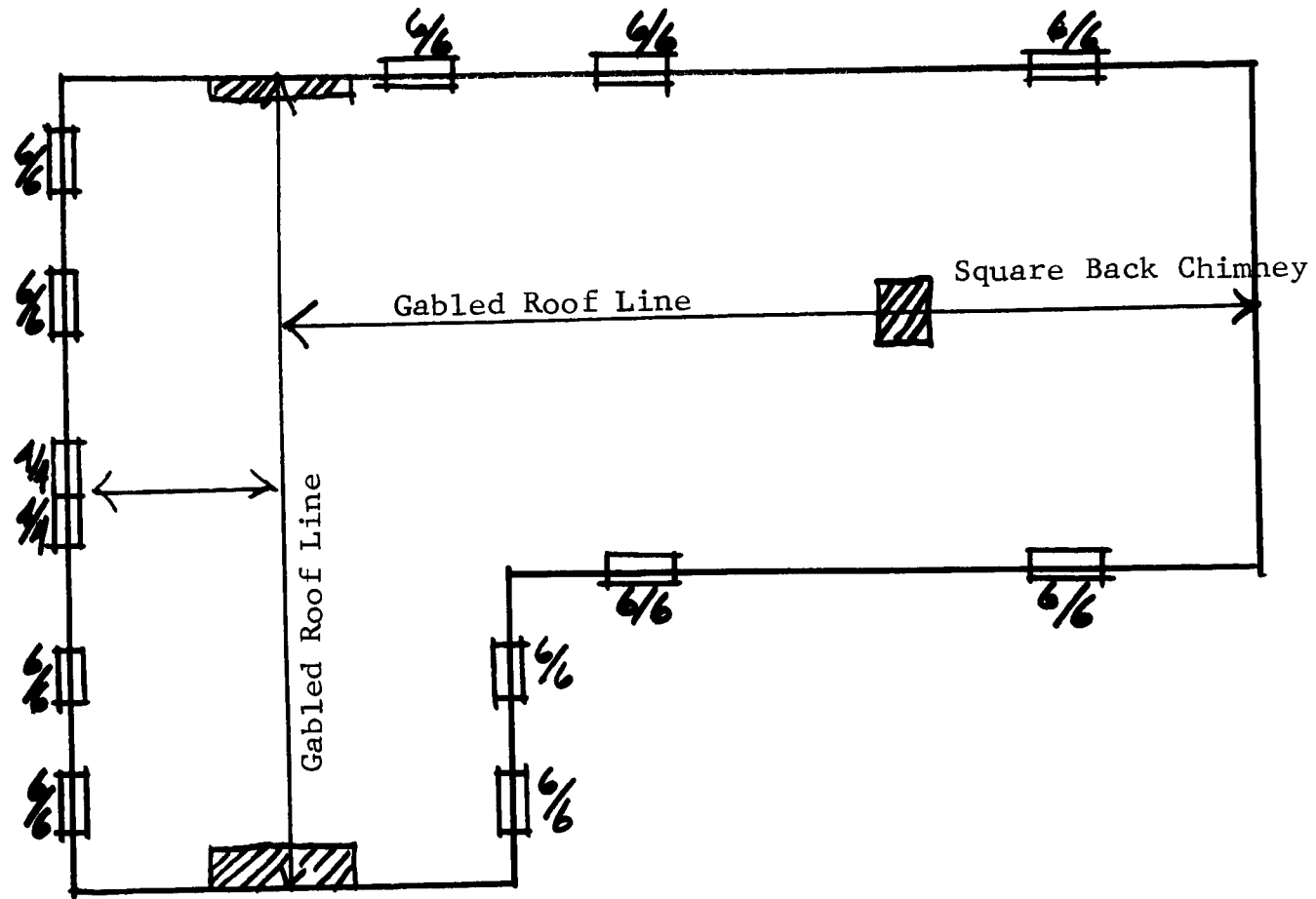
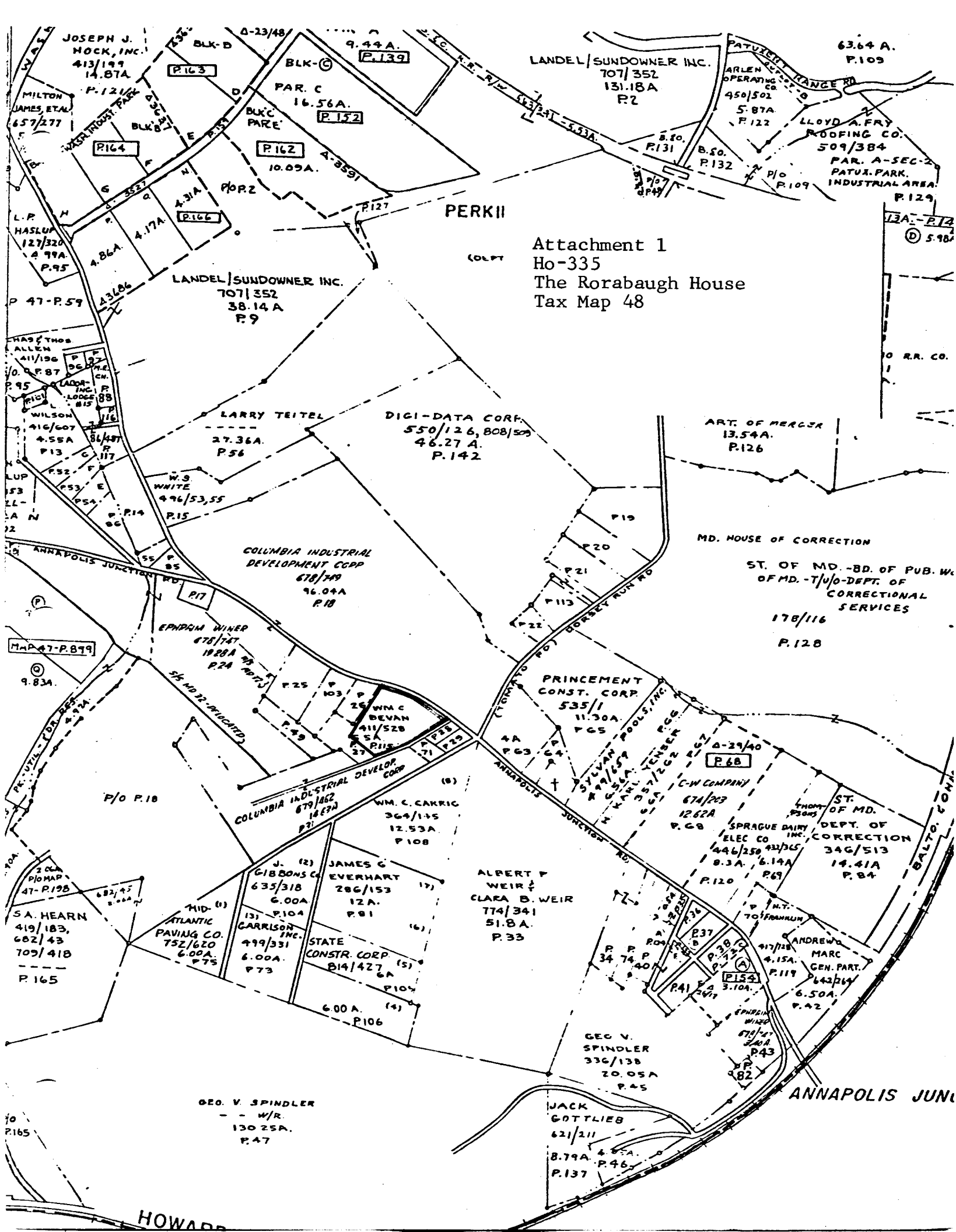
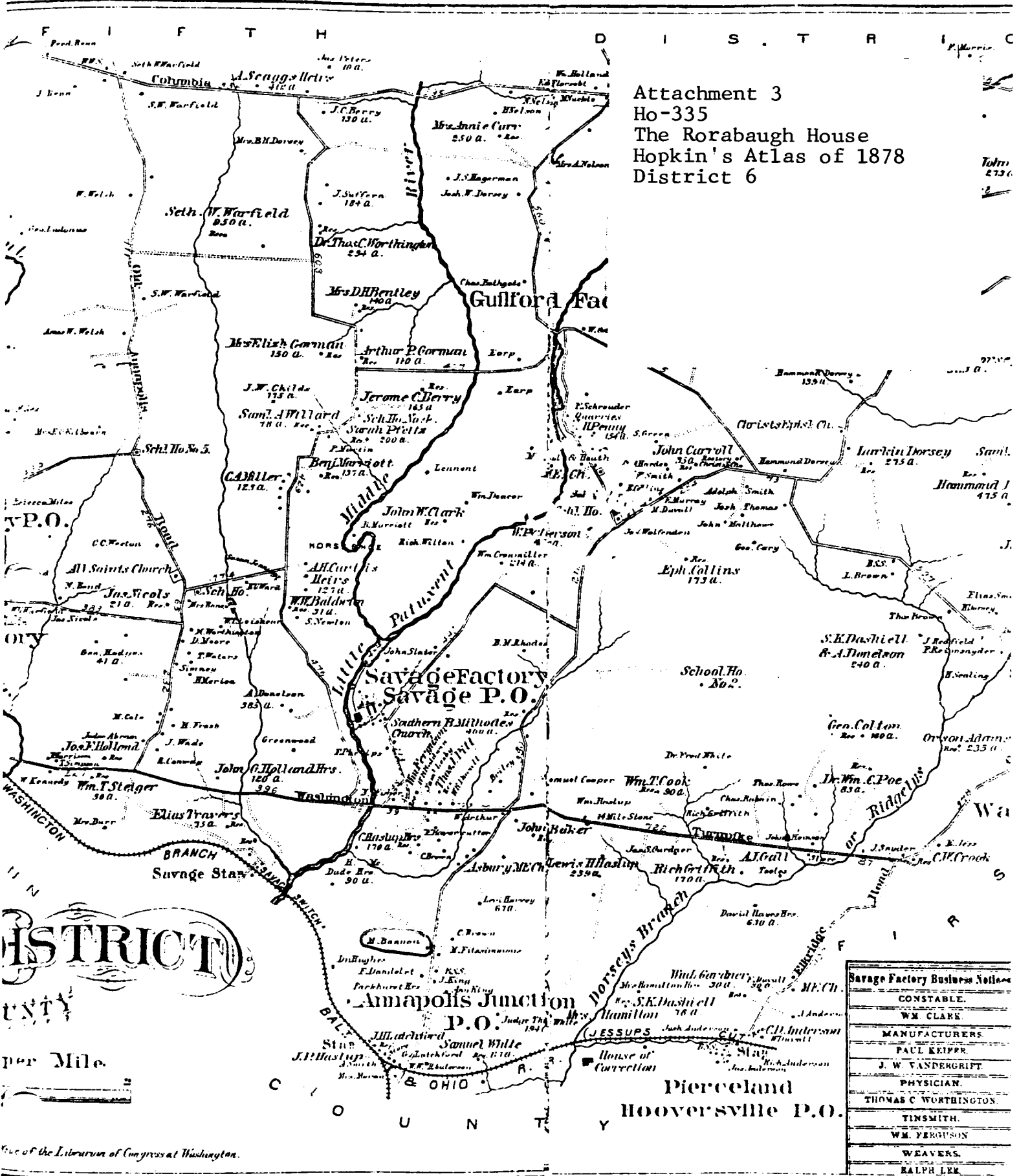


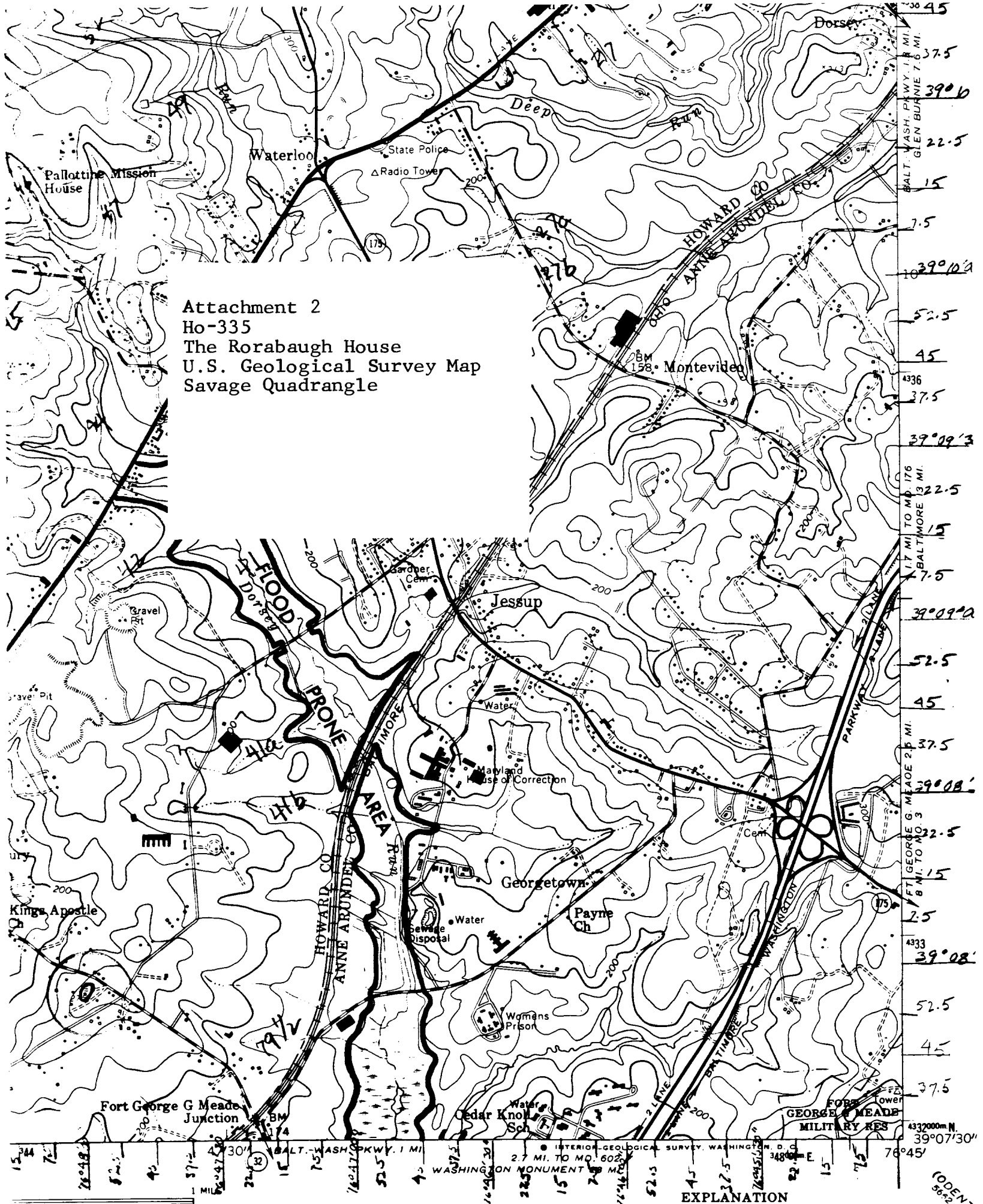
Figure 2
HO-335
The Rorabaugh House
Second Floor Plan





Attachment 3
Ho-335
The Rorabaugh House
Hopkin's Atlas of 1878
District 6

Savage Factory Business Notices	
CONSTABLE.	
WM CLARK	
MANUFACTURERS	
PAUL KEIFFER	
J. W. VANDERGRIFF	
PHYSICIAN.	
THOMAS C. WORTHINGTON	
TINSMITH.	
WM. FERGUSON	
WEAVERS.	
RALPH JENKINS	



Attachment 2
Ho-335
The Rorabaugh House
U.S. Geological Survey Map
Savage Quadrangle

EXPLANATION

Flood boundaries were estimated from:
Regional stage-frequency relations.



HO-335
THE RORABAUGH HO USE
EAST
CB THOMPSON, AIP
FEB - 1978